

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LAUDING TURKEY AND ARMENIA FOR STEPS TOWARD NORMAL- IZATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, the Republics of Turkey and Armenia took a major step forward in August moving closer to normalizing diplomatic relations and developing productive bilateral relations. Such a step chips away at the past tension between the two nations.

The protocols agreed to by the two parties will ultimately lead to the opening of the border between the two countries. This will not only ease tensions between Armenia and Turkey but will also enhance stability in the region. These protocols also established a timetable and process for normalizing relations. As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Turkey, I support the statements by the international community such as the NATO Secretary General and the U.S. Department of State in welcoming improvements in Turkey-Armenia relations.

These efforts are a tremendous step in the proper direction, but there are still further steps to come. I encourage the two governments to move forward with their internal consultations and parliamentary ratifications of the protocols as quickly as possible, so that a new chapter in the Turkish-Armenia bilateral relationship can begin to unfold. This is an historic change that will benefit both nations, and the United States wholeheartedly supports these actions.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I voted to oppose H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009, because I cannot support legislation that amounts to a government takeover of student loans, and at the expense of private industry. The same legislation does continue several efforts I have championed throughout my time as a Member of Congress, and it is regretful that these initiatives were not taken up separately to make it easier for students to get the financial aid they need to get a college degree.

I support increasing the amount of aid available to college students through Pell Grants awards and voted to do so twice in the 110th Congress (H.R. 4137 and H.R. 2669). This program is vital to ensuring the accessibility of higher education for all Americans and I'm pleased this bill continues this increase in Pell Grants.

In addition, I supported efforts to cut interest rates on federal student loans in half (H.R. 5) and to expand eligibility for parents to qualify for education loans for their children (H.R. 5715). I have also been a strong supporter of funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions, which received valuable support in this bill as well.

I was a proud supporter and original sponsor of legislation that would help bridge economic opportunity and the digital divide between minority institutions and their counterparts (H.R. 4137 in the 110th). I will continue to fight for these critical initiatives and others to improve access and quality in American education.

Pell Grants awards, HBCUs, community college funding, and pre-K programs are too important to include them in the same bill alongside reckless provisions that restrict the student loan market and place the fate of student access to financial aid under the care and supervision of the federal government.

HONORING B. TODD JONES

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate B. Todd Jones on his confirmation as the U.S. Attorney for Minnesota.

For U.S. Attorney Jones, my dear friend, this appointment represents the latest record in a life time of proud service to his beloved State of Minnesota, and to his country.

Upon graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1983, B. Todd served on active duty for six years in the Marine Corps. He was called back to active duty and served with distinction in Operation Desert Storm.

In the private sector, B. Todd has tirelessly worked to uphold equal justice under the law. As an attorney with several Minnesota law firms, his diligent work on behalf of his clients has earned him broad respect in the legal community.

Also noteworthy are his efforts to promote diversity in the legal community so that it may better serve all Americans. To this end, B. Todd helped found, and served on the executive board of, Twin Cities Diversity in Practice.

Mr. Jones previously served as the U.S. District Attorney for Minnesota from 1998 to 2001. Based on a life steeped in public service, I have every confidence that B. Todd Jones will once more serve Minnesota and our nation with distinction.

Madam Speaker, let me again extend my most sincere congratulations to my friend and wish him well as he continues his service to our country.

HONORING MESOTHELIOMA AWARENESS DAY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of September 26, which the Illinois House of Representatives has declared as Mesothelioma Awareness Day.

According to the National Cancer Institute, about 2,000 cases of mesothelioma are diagnosed each year in the United States. Understanding that diagnosing mesothelioma is often difficult and could be years and years after exposure, a biopsy is required to make a confirmation. This means that many people may go without proper diagnosis and medical care.

Research is being conducted, funded by the National Cancer Institute, pharmaceutical companies, and the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation. The Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation is the beneficiary of a fundraiser on September 26 in Alton, Illinois—the Miles for Meso 5K.

I want to congratulate the law firm of Simmons Browder Gianaris Angelides & Barnerd, the many volunteers who put together Miles for Meso, and all the participants in the 5K run and walk.

The Simmons firm and its employees and John and Jane Simmons personally have shown their commitment to the region as evident in their efforts at Miles for Meso and through many other community service projects and donations.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3221, important legislation that will provide critical resources for community colleges and expand access to higher education for our nation's students. While I have some remaining concerns with this bill that need to be addressed before enactment, I am voting to move this measure forward in the process because it strengthens our student aid programs while decreasing our federal deficit by \$10 billion.

H.R. 3221 provides an historic investment in Pell Grants and ensures that interest rates remain low on need-based federal student

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

loans. I am a strong supporter of making college more accessible for everyone, and am pleased that the bill invests \$90 million in North Dakota for the Pell Grant program. This increased level of funding means that 17,143 student will be eligible for a Pell Grant award in the 2010–2011 academic year, an increase of 37 percent over the 12,467 North Dakota students eligible in the 2007–2008 school year. And by 2019, the number of students receiving Pell Grants will nearly double from 2007–2008 levels to 21,410. Under this legislation, the maximum Pell Grant scholarship will ultimately reach \$6,900 by 2019, representing over a 45 percent increase in the maximum Pell Grant Award over the next 10 years from today's maximum Pell Grant level of \$4,731. This is good news for students.

However, there are a few issues of remaining concern with H.R. 3221. First, I strongly believe that student loans should be affordable. I have heard concerns from several North Dakota institutions that under the new Direct Perkins loans program, students are required to pay interest accrued on Direct Perkins loans while they are in school. The final proposal of this bill must weigh these concerns with the number of new students who will enter the Perkins loan program as a result of increasing the loan authority of this program.

Second, it is important to ensure that rural and rural-serving community colleges receive their fair share of funding from the new Higher Education Federal Assistance for Community College Modernization and Construction program. Rural and rural-serving colleges face unique challenges in providing critical educational opportunities for our nation's rural students, and should receive an appropriate portion of the funding provided under this program. I also believe that the Veterans Resource Officer Grant program should be modified to better ensure that rural and small schools have access to this program.

Third, as the only state-owned bank in the country, the Bank of North Dakota should continue to be allowed to provide student loans. The Bank of North Dakota currently serves about 75 percent of North Dakota students and has been a wonderful partner for students and their families. The Bank of North Dakota's service should not be disrupted. This is why I led an amendment that was made in order that ensures that non-profit entities like the Bank of North Dakota can continue to provide valuable student borrower services, including delinquency prevention, default aversion, and loan counseling. In addition, I appreciate Chairman MILLER's commitment on the floor to work with me in conference to ensure that this important institution will continue to have a role in federal student lending programs.

Having received the Chairman's assurances to work together on these issues in conference, I am going to vote to move this bill forward. I hope by furthering this bill, we can build on its historic investments in the Pell Grant program and strengthen its provisions for North Dakota schools and students.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN TRACY
FOR BEING NAMED THE 2009 AG-
RICULTURIST OF THE YEAR BY
THE KERN COUNTY FAIR

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Tracy of Buttonwillow, California, the recipient of the 2009 Agriculturist of the Year Award from the Kern County Fair.

A fourth generation Californian, John Tracy was born in Bakersfield in 1947, the third of four sons to Tilton and Kathryn Tracy. John attended Wildwood Grammar School and graduated in 1965 from Wasco High School, where he was active in athletics and student government. Immediately following high school, Mr. Tracy attended California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, earning a degree in Farm Management in 1969. While at Cal Poly, Mr. Tracy met his wife, Donna Allen. They married in 1970 and have two children, Allen and Jessica.

Mr. Tracy is a member of the Historic Tracy Ranch, established in 1862 in Buttonwillow. He is also a founding partner of the Buttonwillow Land and Cattle Company. Primarily an agricultural operation, the enterprise has ventured into other business interests such as commercial property, a hotel, and a feedlot in Texas. Mr. Tracy's business sense and work ethic are excellent examples of his fine character and success.

Mr. Tracy is involved with several community and professional organizations including the Kern County Cattleman's Association, California Cattleman's Association, National Cattleman's Beef Association, California Feeders Association, California Beef Council, Cattle PAC and the Kern County Ag Foundation. He also has been active in the Buttonwillow Lions Club, Kern County Law Enforcement Association, Pismo Beach Moose Lodge, Los Flojos and Rancheros Visitadores. Mr. Tracy also served as Mayor of Buttonwillow in 1982.

Mr. Tracy has been involved with the Kern County Fair throughout his life. He showed animals during his youth, and then helped his children, as well as countless others, do the same. His family's support of the junior livestock auction is also a testament to Mr. Tracy's contributions to the Kern County Fair and the community.

John Tracy is a man of integrity, honesty and compassion. He genuinely cares for his community and is willing to share his vast knowledge with others. In addition, he and I share the same passion for the well-being of California's San Joaquin Valley. For this and so much more, I am honored to consider John Tracy a friend and certainly commend him for all his accomplishments and extend my most sincere congratulations for receiving this prestigious award from the Kern County Fair. As a respected agriculturalist in our nation, it is fitting and proper that John be so honored.

NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS
BETWEEN TURKEY AND ARMENIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, on August 31, 2009, the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Armenia announced their intention to normalize relations. The leaders of these two countries, working together with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, have agreed to begin discussions that will culminate in the signing of two protocols within the next six weeks. The protocols will then be submitted to the respective Parliaments for ratification on each side. These two protocols provide for a framework for the normalization of relations, including the establishment of diplomatic relations and opening of the common border.

This development has significant implications not only for Turkey and Armenia, but for the entire Caucasus region, which has had a turbulent and sometimes troubled history. The successful efforts of Turkey and Armenia to open borders, develop trade relations and other economic benefits, and create a long-lasting dialogue will serve to promote peace and stability throughout the region. I believe that we all should welcome this development and strongly support it.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the leadership of Turkey and Armenia and encourage these two nations to work diligently in the weeks ahead to create a framework that will advance peaceful and fruitful relations for many years to come.

HONORING KENNEDY CHILD STUDY CENTER

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the Kennedy Child Study Center to commemorate its remarkable contributions to the youth of America. Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the Kennedy Child Study Center has helped thousands of children overcome major developmental obstacles. Through a wide range of programs, the Kennedy Child Study Center, and its highly qualified staff, have provided children with guidance and encouragement. For this, the Kennedy Child Study Center and its staff, both present and past, are deserving of recognition.

The Kennedy Child Study Center has done much for the communities in Manhattan and the Bronx in New York City. Over the past half-century, thousands of children have been given the opportunity to receive the proper care, education and social interactions they deserve through the Kennedy Child Study Center. This organization fully understands the significance early diagnosis of learning disabilities has on a child's achievements in school and everyday life. Through preschool and early intervention programs they are able to detect developmental problems and then provide the proper guidance and developmental assistance. They offer a wide spectrum of programs to enhance a child's lifestyle. A few examples of these services include special early

childhood education, physical therapy, nursing, psychological testing and music and art supervision. As the Kennedy Child Study Center celebrates its 50th anniversary, it is a great time to reflect on all the positive work its organization has done for the youth of America and to look towards a future where children with developmental disabilities have access to quality care and educational success.

The dedicated work of the Kennedy Child Study Center is inspiring to us all, and I am immensely grateful to them for all that they have accomplished. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for their extensive contributions to society.

ADVANCED VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3246) to provide for a program of research, development, demonstration and commercial application in vehicle technologies at the Department of Energy:

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3246, the Advanced Vehicle Technology Act of 2009. I commend our colleague from Michigan, Representative GARY PETERS, for authoring this important legislation, which will create the most comprehensive national vehicle research and development program to date. I would also like to acknowledge my colleague from the Illinois delegation, Representative JUDY BIGGERT, for her efforts in working with Representative PETERS to bring this bill to the floor.

Today, our nation faces many serious challenges such as rising unemployment, energy demands that continue to increase exponentially, fierce global competition in technology innovation and the threat of a warming planet, yet the Advanced Vehicle Technology Act provides hope in many of these areas. As one of the largest and busiest bases of manufacturing in the U.S., my home state of Illinois stands to greatly benefit from H.R. 3246. New opportunities are created for Illinois engine and equipment manufacturers, such as John Deere, to build and use products that excel in terms of efficiency and productivity, and contribute to our sustainability. The bill also ensures that American manufacturers remain competitive worldwide by allowing for the collaboration between the Department of Energy and American automakers and commercial, transit, and non-road vehicle manufacturers to develop cutting edge, environmentally friendly technologies.

Additionally, I strongly urge the passage of Chairman GORDON's amendment to H.R. 3246, that includes a small—but important—change to this measure that I authored, which broadens the playing field for those wanting to collaborate with the Department of Energy under this program to include non-road mobile equipment manufacturers. I believe this

change in language is critical as many states have petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency with their concerns over greenhouse gas emissions from non-road vehicles and have stated that these vehicles and pieces of equipment are worthy of consideration for partnership with the Department of Energy. Put simply, this amendment makes a great bill even better by allowing manufacturers of non-road mobile equipment in the fields of agriculture, construction and mining and forestry a chance to work with the Department of Energy to find innovative ways to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil and the harmful emissions that cause global warming.

The Gordon amendment and the overall bill both help keep American innovation within U.S. borders, and importantly do the same for the research, development and manufacturing jobs that come with those innovations. Furthermore, this bill has the support of a broad range of groups such as Deere & Company, Caterpillar, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Sierra Club. The wide array of support this bill has drawn from both ends of the spectrum is evidence of the need for this legislation to become law.

The Advanced Vehicle Technology Act creates and preserves American jobs while having the potential to greatly impact our environment. Again, I applaud and thank my friends GARY PETERS and JUDY BIGGERT, who serve on the Science and Technology Committee for leading the charge on this important legislation. I would also like to thank Chairman GORDON and Ranking Member HALL for their support of this bill. Madam Speaker, I urge the House to adopt both the Gordon amendment and H.R. 3246, the Advanced Vehicle Technology Act of 2009.

SAFETY CENTER INCORPORATION CELEBRATES ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the civic leaders, city officials and community members who have contributed to making Safety Center Incorporation a success for the past 75 years. This organization started in 1934 and has created a number of innovative programs to help educate thousands of people around the Sacramento area regarding safety on and off the road. I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting Safety Center Inc. on the 75th anniversary of their founding.

Since its inception, Safety Center Inc. (SCI), formerly known as Sacramento Safety Council, has created several safety training programs for children, teens, disabled adults and seniors. In 1935, 1 year after establishing the organization, SCI conducted its first safe driving training to Sacramento High School students; and in 1936, SCI opened a traffic school for teens. By means of this traffic school program, young drivers were able to use the SCI testing device to learn how quickly they would react in potential driving sce-

narios. After much excitement between the 1930s and 1950s, the SCI was formally incorporated into the State of California in 1959.

In the 1970s, SCI continued to expand its horizons. On December 9, 1971, SCI authorized the establishment of a drinking and driving program. One week after SCI authorized this program, the State mandated that drunk drivers attend remedial classes, in order to help prevent future drivers from this illegal and unsafe driving behavior. Due to a high Spanish-speaking population, the organization offered Spanish-language defensive driving courses, as well as Courts Alcohol Re-Education (CARE) programs by the mid-1970s.

Within the last quarter-century, Safety Center Inc. has educated more than 2,000 teens in defensive driving techniques, almost 900 seniors in mature driving and more than 600 students in motorcycle riding safety. To include children in their efforts to keep all Californians safe, SCI established a life-saving safety education center known as Safetyville. Children, preschool through third grade, are taken on a tour through a town-like setting, in which they learn fire, pedestrian, stranger danger and railroad safety precautions. This children's program has provided life-saving safety education and training to more than 125,000 children since 1984.

On September 26, 2009, SCI will celebrate 75 years of stability, innovation and of course, safety. I am honored to congratulate and its members who have helped train and protect thousands of people. Madam Speaker, as my constituents gather to celebrate the Safety Center Inc.'s 75th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the organization's monumental history and success.

RECOGNIZING THE HUBBARD FAMILY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on behalf of myself and Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH I rise to offer gratitude to the heroism and strength of the Hubbard family.

Jeff and Peggy Hubbard lost their son Jared, a Marine, in Iraq in 2004. Six months later, their remaining two sons, Nathan and Jason, both enlisted together in the Army—to honor Jared and serve their country.

Both Nathan and Jason served in the same unit in Iraq. In August of 2006, Nathan lost his life while defending freedom, leaving Jason as the remaining sole survivor of his family.

Since then, the Hubbard family has shown grace and strength during these most difficult of times. Because of their sacrifice, in 2008, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law the Hubbard Act which provides benefits to those soldiers who separate honorably as a sole survivor.

The Hubbards have shared the burden of service to this Nation with honor and focused resolve.

Today, I ask that this legislative body recognize the strength of their family, the bravery of Jared and Nathan and the ultimate sacrifice they paid for our country.

SUPPORTING AMERICAN LEGION
DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 679, Supporting the goals and ideals of American Legion Day.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, war-time veteran's organization, devoted to mutual helpfulness.

The American Legion has been a guardian of our national ensign, and the first "Flag Code" was drafted during a conference called by The American Legion in Washington, D.C. The code eventually was adopted by Congress in 1942. And today, the Legion is at the forefront of efforts to gain a constitutional amendment to protect the American flag from physical desecration.

The American Legion's voice has been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, then later advocated for it to become a cabinet level department, creating a GI bill, and fighting for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome.

The American Legion became the largest single contributor to the "Vietnam Wall" in Washington, DC—its members collectively donated \$1 Million dollars.

And today, the American Legion is a strong advocate for today's servicemen and women returning from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan—assisting combat wounded veterans receive compensation for their injuries and helping to create a 21st Century GI Bill.

The reason that we are free today is because brave men and women have answered our Nation's call in our time of need. They have sweated, bled and sacrificed for our freedom.

And as it is written on the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C, freedom isn't free—the cost is readily apparent in the rows of crosses in Arlington, where many generations of American warriors have been laid to rest.

We owe our veterans a debt that can never be fully repaid, but I personally want to thank them for your service and sacrifice. I will continue to work to ensure that our veterans get the care, help, and benefits they so richly deserve.

Let us remember our obligations to our Nation's veterans, as Abraham Lincoln said in his Second Inaugural Address, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

The American Legion has been there for our Nation's veterans for over 90 years, and I'm proud to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMEMORATING THE HEROES OF
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF
MARYVILLE, IL**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the actions of 3 men who unselfishly risked their lives in the defense of others.

At the early service on Sunday morning, March 8, 2009, an armed gunman entered the First Baptist Church of Maryville, Illinois. He confronted, shot, and killed Pastor Fred Winters as he was conducting the service. Three church members, Keith Melton, Terry Bullard, and Patrick Presson, rushed to the aid of Pastor Winters and to subdue the gunman. In the ensuing confrontation Mr. Melton was the first person to reach the gunman. He was immediately stabbed and forced to withdraw.

Undaunted, Mr. Bullard and Mr. Presson, at great personal risk, engaged the gunman and managed to physically subdue him. In the struggle Mr. Bullard was critically wounded. Once the gunman was under control Patrick's attention instantly turned to assisting his friend Terry. With the assistance of another churchgoer, Jason Shutty, Mr. Presson carried Mr. Bullard to the entrance of the church, secured transportation, and took Mr. Bullard to the emergency room of Anderson Hospital a short distance away.

The immediate, decisive, and courageous actions of these three men undoubtedly saved other lives on that Sunday morning. Mr. Presson's continued actions are credited with saving Mr. Bullard's life. These men are the embodiment of courage and heroism. They are deserving of recognition by and in the United States House of Representatives, in order that a permanent record of their individual and collective character can be preserved.

In a time when the term is often overused, these men are true American heroes, who, when faced with danger, unselfishly launched themselves into harm's way. Their actions were taken without consideration or regard for their personal well-being and unquestionably prevented a horrible situation from becoming worse. These individuals should be held up as examples of ordinary citizens whose behavior and exemplary character shined through in a most dangerous situation.

THE REAL STORY ABOUT COPTIC
CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, DC, recently sent the following e-mail to their distribution list:

"Egypt has the largest and oldest Christian community in the Middle East, and is home to 2,069 churches.

"The Coptic Orthodox Church was founded in Alexandria by the apostle Mark in AD 57, making it one of the oldest churches in the world.

"A law requiring Presidential approval for church construction was changed in 2005,

transferring that duty instead to the country's governors who are obligated to process churches' requests within 30 days.

"In 2003, President Mubarak declared Coptic Christmas, celebrated on January 7, a national holiday."

In spite of these overtures by the Egyptian government, the situation for Coptic Christians in Egypt is far from ideal. According to the State Department's 2008 International Religious Freedom Report, "The approval process for church construction continued to be hindered by lengthy delays, often measured in years. Although government officials maintain that President Mubarak approves all requests for permits presented to him, independent critics charge that delays by the MOI and/or local authorities cause many requests to reach the President slowly or not at all. Some churches have complained that local security officials have blocked church repairs or improvements even when a permit has been issued. Others suggest unequal enforcement of the regulations pertaining to church and mosque projects. Many churches face difficulty in obtaining permits from provincial officials."

On September 7, The Los Angeles Times reported that Egyptian authorities arrested 155 people in Aswan for publicly eating, drinking or smoking during daylight in the month of Ramadan, including non-Muslims.

There is clearly much that needs to be done by the Egyptian government to ensure the preservation of the Coptic community in Egypt.

MEDIA DOWNPLAY 9/12 PROTESTS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, The national media's coverage of the conservative 9/12 protests was scarce and antagonistic, according to an analysis by the Media Research Center (MRC).

According to MRC, the three TV networks did not offer any pre-rally coverage before the 9/12 protests.

And their coverage afterward intentionally tried to paint a negative picture of the protestors.

Furthermore, a regular commentator on MSNBC dismissed the protestors as "the fringe of the fringe," although they were everyday Americans.

And The New York Times buried its coverage of the protests on page A37 of Sunday's paper.

In contrast, the media gave significantly more—and more positive—coverage to liberal protests recently.

The national media should give fair coverage to protests on both sides, rather than downplaying conservative demonstrations.

WES WATKINS AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH LAB AND POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor my

friend and former colleague, Wesley "Wes" Watkins. H.R. 1713 would name the United States Department of Agriculture's South Central Research Laboratory in Lane, Oklahoma, and the facility of the U.S. Postal Service in Bennington, Oklahoma, in honor of the former Congressman Wes Watkins, who represented Oklahoma for 20 years.

Throughout Congressman Watkins's career, he devoted his life to the people of Oklahoma. He began his career of public service in 1974 when he was elected to serve in the Oklahoma State Senate. After U.S. House Speaker Carl Albert announced his retirement after 30 years in office, Congressman Watkins was elected to Congress in 1976. During his time in office, Wes would become the only Oklahoma Congressman to serve on all three major House financial committees, including Appropriations, Budget, and Ways and Means, where he used his influence to increase funding for rural economic development and education programs in the Third District of Oklahoma.

Wes is a man of principal. I am honored to know him and to have worked with him in Congress. He served the great state of Oklahoma and America proudly. I ask that you all join me in supporting H.R. 1713 which recognizes and honors a great public servant to Oklahoma and our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CRAGIN AND PIKE INSURANCE

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the centennial anniversary of Cragin and Pike Insurance in Las Vegas.

In 1909, the first insurance company in Las Vegas opened its doors in newly incorporated Clark County, Nevada. Peter Buol, the original owner, provided real estate and insurance services to the citizens of the newly established City of Las Vegas. The business philosophy established by Peter Buol was carried on by partners Ernie Cragin and William Pike. Their combined dedication to and vision for our community contributed immensely to the political, economical, and environmental development and history of Southern Nevada.

Ernie Cragin served as Las Vegas Mayor for 25 years and was instrumental in establishing the Helderado Days celebration and parade downtown. He also worked to bring the U.S. Army's Aerial Gunnery School, which is now known as the world famous Nellis Air Force Base to Southern Nevada.

William Pike, who began as an assistant to Peter Buol and would later own the company, witnessed the construction of the Hoover Dam and helped many of the workers meet their financial and insurance needs.

After the passing of Ernie Cragin and William Pike, Paul McDermott and Frank Kerestesi continued the name of Cragin & Pike Insurance. The current partners—Tom Kerestesi, Mark McKinley, Greg McKinley and Tom Burns continue the Cragin & Pike tradition of personal service by providing insurance, risk management and surety products to Southern Nevadans.

On September 24, 2009, Cragin & Pike Insurance celebrates 100 years of continuously doing business in Southern Nevada. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Cragin and Pike Insurance on their 100th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN LINDSAY

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of John Lindsay and to wish him well in his next endeavors.

For the past four years, John Lindsay has directed the communications activities of Idaho National Laboratory, INL. During that time, INL has achieved great success as the lead laboratory for the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. INL has increased the size of its research portfolio, achieved success in its pursuit and receipt of R&D 100 awards, and played a leading role communicating the technical facts behind the growing nuclear renaissance we see developing in the U.S. and especially around the world. John Lindsay has had a steady hand communicating the lab's success, and he has assembled a strong team that will continue on after he departs.

John's most important contribution to Idaho may have been his leading role in the formation of a public organization known as the Partnership for Science and Technology, which seeks to bring balance and facts into the discussion of science and energy matters. The Partnership has become an effective and trusted resource that can respond quickly to misrepresentations and misstatements regarding nuclear power and any other clean energy source. Indeed, the Partnership mobilized the citizens of Idaho to express their views of nuclear issues to such an extent that this visible public support became a major factor in the decision by AREVA to site its next uranium enrichment plant in Idaho.

John Lindsay is a true professional and a valued member of the communities of eastern Idaho. John is recognized and respected as a true gentleman—he always treats everyone he meets with respect and dignity, and he has brought great respect to Idaho National Lab as one of its most visible leaders.

While we will miss them, on behalf of eastern Idaho, I want to wish John and Terri all the best in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MIKE FUOSS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of Mike Fuoss, who was shot and killed on Friday, September 11, 2009. Mike was a small business owner, father, brother and friend to many in the greater Owosso community.

Mike was born February 7, 1948, in Owosso. He graduated from Corunna High School in 1966. He went on to study Diesel

Mechanics and Business at Ferris State University. In 1999, he married his wife, Barbara.

Mike co-owned a number of small businesses throughout Owosso, including Fuoss Gravel Co. and Eddie O'Flynn's.

He was a member of the Owosso Home Builders Association, and the Shiawassee County Chamber of Commerce.

Mike loved restoring old cars and hot rods, enjoyed riding his Harley, and was a fan of NASCAR.

Fuoss was a good American who died tragically. The people whose lives he touched through his contributions to the community will miss him dearly.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. This legislation makes urgently-needed investments in our education system by helping students and their families pay for college, modernizing schools and curricula, and training our future workforce for the 21st Century.

H.R. 3221 will provide reliable, affordable, high-quality federal student loans for all families. Beginning July 1, 2010, all new federal student loans will be originated through the Direct Loan Program, which is insulated from market swings and can guarantee students access to low-cost federal loans in any economy.

I am also pleased that \$40 billion of the money saved from switching all loans to the Direct Loan Program will go to boosting Pell Grants. Over the next ten years, this measure will invest more than \$154.6 million in Rhode Island to increase the maximum annual Pell Grant scholarships to \$5,550 in 2010 and to \$6,900 by 2019. In the 2010–2011 academic school year, this will help nearly 12,000 eligible students in my congressional district.

Far too many students face unnecessary barriers when it comes to pursuing a college degree. This measure will make it easier to apply for financial aid by simplifying the FAFSA form, which many families find confusing and overly burdensome, and allowing applicants to use the information on their tax returns. Meanwhile, under this bill, Rhode Island will receive \$3.8 million over the next five years for the College Access Challenge Grant program, which will bolster college access and completion support programs, increase financial literacy education, and help retain and graduate students.

H.R. 3221 also strengthens our state's seven community colleges that teach more than 15,000 students each year. Community colleges excel at meeting the needs of students from all backgrounds and work with businesses to ensure students have the skills they need to fulfill local workforce needs. This

measure will establish a competitive grant program for community colleges to raise graduation rates, modernize facilities, and create new online learning opportunities.

This legislation not only invests in our college students, but also focuses on the next generation of students by ensuring that all children have the preparation and skills they need on their very first day of school. By creating the Early Learning Challenge Fund, competitive grants will be awarded to states that implement comprehensive reform of birth-to-five early learning programs. H.R. 3221 also provides more than \$13.7 million over the next two years to Rhode Island school districts for school modernization, renovation and repair projects that will create healthier, safer and more energy-efficient teaching and learning climates.

Madam Chair, this measure will have long-term benefits for our economy. Going forward, we must continue to build upon these advances so the next generation is encouraged to pursue their dreams.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAMBRIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Cambria County Association of Township Officials. This organization and the townships that comprise it have seen many changes over the last century since its inception.

When Cambria County's townships first formed, they were primarily agrarian. Farms dotted the landscape and were valuable contributors to the local, state, and national economies. However, as America was quickly industrializing, the townships changed as many of their citizens began working in the coal mines that were opening throughout the county. Even today, the economies are again changing as Cambria County's townships are becoming the center of new, high-tech industries.

Madam Speaker, while the county's industries have changed over the years, Cambria County's townships have adapted by adding and diversifying its businesses. Instead of changing entirely, the townships are now home to agriculture, mining, and high-tech industries.

The townships are also quality places to live, with many who work elsewhere choosing to live and raise families there. They are among the county's assets.

Finally, like the County itself, the townships have endured much hardship, surviving severe flooding in 1889, 1936, and 1977. They also survived the collapse of the steel industry and the ripple effects throughout the entire county. Their resilience is a reflection of the strong people who live and work there.

Over the years, as the townships experienced the economic ups and downs, they have had a constant advocate. The Cambria County Association of Township Officials has been there to lobby on behalf of its members. They meet on a monthly basis, gathering to

discuss common issues. The group is also a member of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Officials.

Madam Speaker, I conclude my remarks by commending the Cambria County Association of Township Officials, as well as the townships themselves, for their hard work and dedication to the people of Cambria County.

CONGRATULATING THE KERN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kern Community Foundation (KCF) on its 10th anniversary serving the citizens of the southern San Joaquin Valley. KCF was formally established in 1999, but it actually organized in 1995. The Foundation was created to build endowments to address Kern County's changing needs over time, help donors create charitable legacies, and assist nonprofit groups to deliver services to manage their donated funds.

In 2002, KCF joined the League of California Community Foundations, and received re-granting funds from the California Endowment for health needs in Kern County. KCF then launched the Nonprofits' Resource Center in 2003 to assist Kern County's nonprofit organizations with training, discussions of community issues, technical assistance, grant-writing help, e-blast communications, and program support.

In 2005, KCF introduced the Women's & Girls' Fund of Kern County as its first Field of Interest Fund. The Women's & Girls' Fund provides ongoing support to nonprofit organizations that serve Kern's women and girls. To date, the Fund has introduced the concepts of "collective giving" and "giving circles" to more than 300 donors. KCF's Women's & Girls' Fund has been model for other small foundations in California to emulate.

Also in 2005, the Kern Community Foundation entered strategic re-granting partnerships with private foundations, all of which continue in 2009. These partners include the California Wellness Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, and the James Irvine Foundation. The Kern Community Foundation achieved compliance with "National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations" in 2006.

Since its inception, the Kern Community Foundation has promoted philanthropy to individuals, nonprofits and civic groups in numerous Kern communities including Bakersfield, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Wasco and the Kern River Valley area. With new funds added each year, KCF currently holds 90 charitable funds to suit various donors' intent. The Foundation has operated several grant making programs to benefit Kern County: Discretionary Grants; Kern Community Wellness Grants; Weingart-KCF Grants; Kern Community Response Grants; School-to-Career Grants; Women's & Girls' Fund Grants; and GABY (Grant Advisory Board for Youth) Grants.

The Kern Community Foundation has given the County of Kern ten years of dedicated service. I commend KCF for its service to Kern County residents in standing by their

mission statement of "enhancing the quality of life for all of the people of Kern County by encouraging philanthropy, by providing services to donors, and by assisting those who serve to meet the needs of the community." I applaud KCF's admirable service to Kern County and will continue to do so for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN JAMES EDWARD BROMWELL

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, today I would like to make note of the life of former Congressman James Edward Bromwell. Mr. Bromwell served his country in WWII as an officer after finishing his undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa. Upon honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 1946, Mr. Bromwell received his MBA from Harvard University and then returned home to receive his JD from the University of Iowa in 1950. Mr. Bromwell served as Assistant Linn County Attorney before being elected as the Representative for the 2nd Congressional District in 1960. As Representative of the 2nd District, Mr. Bromwell sat on the Judiciary Committee and was imperative in contributing and ultimately helping pass the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964. This landmark legislation corrected a serious social injustice within our society. Mr. James Edward Bromwell passed away on July 11, 2009. The service that James Bromwell performed for his country and state will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO THE CLIFTON JEWISH CENTER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding religious institution, The Clifton Jewish Center in Clifton, New Jersey, which this year is celebrating its 66th Anniversary of dedicated service and support to the Jewish Community.

It is only fitting that The Clifton Jewish Center be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the spiritual home it has provided to Jewish American families, especially those just embarking on their American dream, and its dedication to the entire community. This dedication keeps this deeply-rooted institution growing towards the future.

The Clifton Jewish Center is a Conservative Egalitarian Synagogue providing worship, comfort and friendship to the Jewish community. From its beginnings in 1943, with only a handful of families, the Center has been a constant source of cultural and spiritual events for all age groups. The Center's main purpose has always been to enrich the lives of the people of Clifton by providing creative programming of an educational, cultural and recreational nature.

Jewish culture relies a great deal upon the passing of information from one generation to another. The Center offers youth activities such as lectures, workshops, religious school and Hebrew High for students after their bar or bat mitzvah, all aimed at teaching children about the Jewish faith. Events for adult and senior members continue to carry the traditions of the culture and faith as well as provide opportunities for socializing.

The most important service that The Clifton Jewish Center provides is that of being a sounding board and a voice for the thriving Jewish community in the greater Clifton area. Its sponsorship and participation with interfaith programs, human relations and civic improvement reach across the lines of faith to help promote the interests and values of their membership. Under the leadership of Rabbi Ari Korenblit, it is successfully contacting and connecting with all the other organizations in the area.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of wonderful, thriving community institutions such as The Clifton Jewish Center.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join the members and clergy of The Clifton Jewish Center, all whose faith has been enriched throughout the years and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of The Clifton Jewish Center to the Jewish community and beyond.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the Congressional Record prior to floor vote on a bill that includes earmarks they have requested.

Specifically, H.R. 2265, the Magna Water District Water Reuse and Groundwater Recharge Act of 2009, which I introduced on May 6, 2009, contains an earmark as defined under House Rule XXI, clause 9. The earmark in H.R. 2265 authorizes appropriations for projects under Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act.

The project authorized in H.R. 2265 is an advanced water treatment facility and reuse water system in the township of Magna, Utah, located in the northwest quadrant of Salt Lake County. Magna relies on drinking water from two well fields, one of which has been impacted by the contaminant perchlorate, a by-product of decades of manufacturing of rocket motors and explosives by the defense and aerospace industries. Additionally, the EPA changed the standard for arsenic in drinking water, an unfunded mandate for which water suppliers across the Nation must comply. Because of this contamination and the unfunded federal mandate, the Magna Water District is attempting to restore the Barton Well Field, a valuable water resource. Therefore, reclamation of this drinking water source necessitates federal assistance.

This legislation would authorize \$12 million to allow for the planning, design, and construction of the Magna Water District (District) water reuse and groundwater recharge project. The District constructed an electro dialysis reversal (EDR) drinking water treatment plant to remove harmful arsenic and perchlorate from the Barton Well Field. To address the water shortage issues facing the citizens of northwest Salt Lake County, the District developed a state-of-the-art, first of its type in the world water reuse and recharge facility, known as BIOBROx, that treats the waste stream from the EDR plant to produce high quality effluent that can be used for outdoor irrigation. In doing so, the District will be saving over 580 million gallons/year of drinkable water that was formerly being used for irrigation purposes.

The project also includes additional pumping facilities, distribution system upgrades, and storage facilities required to deliver reuse water to the District's customers.

The Magna Water District has invested \$36 million in the project and is seeking the \$12 million federal appropriation to complete construction of the project.

I certify that this project does not have any foreseeable effect on any of my financial interests, nor the interests of any member of my family. Consistent with the Republican Conference's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

CAPTAIN DREW BESSINGER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary public safety officer who has spent his entire career serving the public. I am speaking of Captain Drew Bessinger, of the Clovis Police Department (CPD) in Clovis, California. Captain Bessinger will conclude his years of service in law enforcement and retire from the Clovis Police Department this year.

Captain Bessinger was born in the Garden State of New Jersey, where he graduated from high school in 1975. Upon his graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army. During his tenure in the Army, Captain Bessinger was a Military Police Officer; serving in Germany and achieving the rank of Sergeant.

Upon returning from his service overseas, Captain Bessinger worked for the Department of Defense Police in Virginia. Santa Barbara Police Department hired Captain Bessinger which brought him to California in 1980 and he served there until 1984. In 1984, he accepted a position with the University Police Department of Fresno State, my alma mater. He was then hired by the Clovis Police Department in 1987, where he remained for twenty two years in a variety of roles helping the community of Clovis.

At Clovis Police Department, Captain Bessinger served in patrol, investigations, neighborhood policing, youth services, administration, planning and neighborhood services assignments. He continued his years of service with undoubtedly flawless service to the community and people of Clovis, he climbed the ranks from Corporal in October, 1992, and only five years later in 1997 became Sergeant. At the height of his career, he became Captain in April 2007.

During his tenure at Clovis Police Department, Captain Bessinger helped design: the shoulder patch policemen wear on their uniforms for CPD; the department's Honor Guard Badge; and Challenge coin. He also led the Honor Guard Unit, participated in the Peace Officers Memorial at Pelco Company, participated in the Annual Peace Officers Memorial in Fresno's Courthouse Park, the State Officers Memorial in Sacramento, and was an officer at the funeral for fallen Marine Jared Hubbard and Army Soldier Nathan Hubbard. The Hubbard's where sons of a retired department sergeant. Captain Bessinger volunteered for the Special Olympics and also managed to oversee several operations in the CPD including Youth Services, Animal Services, Communications, and administrative duties ranging from writing/updating Municipal Codes, Homeland Security and Grants, Internal Affairs and Audits, Workers Comp, and Public Information.

Aside from serving the public as a Policeman throughout his life, one of Captain Bessinger's proudest accomplishments has been raising his two sons; Derek who is twenty nine and Chris who is twenty five. Single-handedly, he raised his two boys from the ages of four and sixteen months, a responsibility any father would fathom. During this time, he managed the duties of a father, police officer, and as a student earning his college degree. Captain Bessinger celebrates with his wife Yvonne, their ninth anniversary this year. I ask that my colleagues please salute Captain Bessinger for his years of service in the law enforcement field and to wish him well as he retires from the Clovis Police Department.

RECOGNIZING 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of recognizing the 15th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994. I commend our distinguished colleague from New York, Representative SLAUGHTER, for introducing this resolution which recognizes a significant achievement in the women's rights movement.

This landmark legislation, originally authored by our former colleague, Senator JOSEPH BIDEN, set a new standard for preventing violence against women and provides resources necessary for coping with attacks that have occurred. Since the enactment of VAWA fifteen years ago, this country has made significant progress in our response to domestic and dating violence, sexual assaults and stalking.

Provisions of VAWA have allowed for additional training for law enforcement officers dedicated to these issues. Additionally, VAWA authorized funding for an office within the Department of Justice, which is dedicated to ending violence against women. Notably this legislation created a national domestic violence hotline, which has provided information and help to millions of women in crisis.

VAWA has brought communities together in order to address domestic violence and rally support for survivors. It is important for Congress and all Americans to recognize the achievements of this legislation. Since VAWA's inception, this country's awareness of domestic violence has increased and resources to help victims have become more readily available and accessible.

Though we have made great progress, the instances of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence are still too high. Far too many women in our great nation are victims of violence. We must take further action to keep women safe and provide justice for those who have been victims. Too many communities remain underserved and lack the resources to provide services to victims of sexual violence. We need to continue to increase awareness about sexual violence, provide funding to programs that prevent and punish that violence and educate women about the help that is available to victims.

I am proud of the achievements made in the past fifteen years, and I look forward to supporting the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act in 2010. Again, I thank my friend from New York for introducing H. Res. 738 which commemorates this landmark legislation.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT CHILES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the actions of Robert Chiles as well as honor all American citizens who embody the spirit of our early patriots.

Beginning on April 15, 2009, Mr. Chiles began circulating a Tea Party Declaration in Springfield, Illinois, requesting the end of "massive government driven bailouts," "so-called economic stimulus plans," "trillion dollar spending schemes," and "out of control government spending."

This petition is nearly 60 feet long and contains about 1,000 signatures. The organizer, Mr. Robert Chiles of Rochester, Illinois, says that the petition is signed by "electricians, plumbers, construction workers, doctors, lawyers, nurses, ministers, teachers, democrats, republicans, law enforcement officers, retired military, stay at home moms, small business owners, you name it."

The document begins, "When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for like-minded patriotic Americans to rally as one against the powers that threaten to alter, diminish and destroy this country we love. Proper respect for the opinions of our fellow citizens requires that we should clearly state the grievances that impel us to gather at this Springfield, Illinois, tea party to protest peacefully, but passionately in the tradition of our

forefathers whose Boston Tea Party resonated around the world."

I salute these modern day patriots and want to publicly thank them for this petition.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM HOWARD BRONSON, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM MOBILE'S PRESS-REGISTER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor the long and distinguished career of William Howard Bronson, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement as president and publisher of Mobile's Press-Register.

A 17-year veteran of the Press-Register, Howard brought profound changes to the paper. Under his leadership, the paper received several prestigious awards and greatly increased its readership. In the days following his retirement, the paper published a tribute stating "Howard Bronson leaves an extensive legacy of accomplishments and contributions to the southwest Alabama community and, indeed, the entire state."

Howard and his wife, Dorsey, moved to Mobile from Shreveport, Louisiana, where he was president and publisher of The Times, owned by Gannett Company, Inc. He served as president and general manager of the Newspaper Production Co., while in Shreveport from 1977 to 1991. He was regional vice president responsible for the launch and first year of operation of three USA Today print and distribution sites in Dallas, New Orleans and Houston in 1983-84.

Howard also has held regional responsibility with Gannett for publications in Monroe, Louisiana; Gainesville, Georgia; Muskogee, Oklahoma; Springfield, Missouri; Jackson, Mississippi; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; and Jackson, Tennessee.

As president and publisher of the Press-Register, he was involved in a number of professional organizations, including the Alabama Press Association, the Newspaper Association of America and the American Newspaper Publisher's Association. Howard serves as a board member of several civic organizations, including the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, the Business Council of Alabama, Spring Hill College and the United Way of Southeast Alabama, Inc. He is also a member of Forward Mobile and Mobile United.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated journalist, a respected executive and friend to many throughout southwest Alabama. I am certain that his family—his wife, Dorsey, and their four children—along with all those at the Press-Register and his many friends in Mobile join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his considerable service to the city of Mobile and all of southwest Alabama.

On behalf of a grateful community, allow me to wish Howard Bronson the very best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING GEAR UP DAY

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the ambitious and important work being performed every day by students, program staff, parents and teachers to ensure that college dreams become reality for students attending high poverty schools. In particular, I would like to join with GEAR UP programs across the country who celebrated GEAR UP Day on September 18, 2009.

In order to meet the challenge posed by President Obama that "by 2020, America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world," we will need to draw students from communities where high school graduation, let alone college attendance, is the exception rather than the rule. This ambitious goal, and the global competitiveness that comes with it, will require a dramatic increase in college attendance for students who are the first in their families to pursue higher education.

I want to thank the GEAR UP programs who organized these events and the elected officials who participated:

In Fairmont, West Virginia, they hosted a reception to thank the faculty and staff and to highlight the successes of GEAR UP while the Governor declared a West Virginia GEAR UP Day.

In Cleveland, the program received a proclamation from the Governor of Ohio.

In Eau Claire, Wisconsin, the Governor proclaimed September 18, 2009 as GEAR UP Day and the program celebrated with a community outreach event.

In Iowa City, a GEAR UP principal gave remarks and received proclamations from the Governor and Mayor.

In Wilburton and McAlester, Oklahoma, they received a proclamation from the Governor.

In Pago Pago, American Samoa, the program received a gubernatorial proclamation and Valasi Lam Yuen was recognized as their Teacher of the Year.

In Portland, Maine, the GEAR UP site also received a gubernatorial proclamation.

In La Grande, Oregon, the mayor officially proclaimed September 18, 2009 GEAR UP Day.

In Waco, Texas, parents, students, faculty and staff were on hand to receive a proclamation from the Mayor.

In New York City they held a National GEAR UP Day breakfast at the partner middle school for parents, students, teachers, and administrators. The middle school scholars sent an oversized thank you card to the Honorable Senator CHARLES SCHUMER. The Mayor of New York City, Michael R. Bloomberg has proclaimed September 18, 2009 as National GEAR UP Day.

In Tucson, the Mayor proclaimed GEAR UP Day and students are creating a GEAR UP Wall of Dreams.

In San Marcos, California, GEAR UP received a proclamation from the city.

In Kalamazoo, Michigan, they had an all-school assembly which included the Superintendent and Michigan State Representative Robert Jones.

In Cincinnati, students signed promise cards and invited the Mayor and grant partners to participate.

In Baltimore, students, staff and administrators celebrated GEAR UP Day on Friday and will continue their recognition on October 1, 2009.

In Bangor, Michigan, they had an all school assembly at Bangor High School which included a speaker on career opportunities after high school.

In Boone, North Carolina, GEAR UP leaders visited high schools to talk about GEAR UP and preparing for college.

In Brooklyn, students participated in the 9/11 Day of Service.

In Columbia, South Carolina, they recognized all the wonderful teachers, staff members, tutors, and volunteers who work with their GEAR UP students with an "Energy Breakfast" and by giving out thank you notes with Life Savers candy to let these people know they are GEAR UP's life savers.

In Columbus County, North Carolina, students and program staff will be celebrating GEAR UP Day this week and will be creating a GEAR UP Wall of Dreams.

In Edinburg, Texas, the GEAR UP site held a press conference to talk about the program, including a video message from Congressman HINOJOSA.

In El Paso, Texas, over 3200 GEAR UP students visited the UTEP Don Haskins Special Events Center for the GEAR UP Day Motivating Aspiring Scholars.

In Harrison County, West Virginia, they had daily announcements about GEAR UP and had every 10th and 11th grade student write their goals for the future on a strip of paper. The strips of paper have been linked together into a chain to display in the commons area.

In Jamaica, NY, the grantees hosted a round table discussion and invited Congresswoman MALONEY, Mayor Bloomberg and Councilman Peter Vallone.

In Lancaster, Pennsylvania, announcements were made every day last week with facts about college. To continue the celebration, I will be visiting this GEAR UP site next week.

In Lincoln City, Oregon, students participated in sessions on college preparation, overcoming obstacles to higher education, and college and career planning.

In Long Island, students participated in the 9/11 Day of Service.

In Lowell, Massachusetts, they received proclamations from Congresswoman NICOLA S. TSONGAS as well as Mayor Edward C. Caulfield in recognition of the National GEAR UP Day. The proclamations were read to students on Friday in an assembly. In addition, parents of GEAR UP students prepared and served breakfast to teachers and students to commemorate the 10th year anniversary of GEAR UP.

In Vista, California, the City issued a proclamation.

North Hollywood, CA hosted a bagels and college awareness meeting with teachers, parents and students at GEAR UP schools.

In Passaic, New Jersey student graduates presented to the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.

In Philadelphia, they recognized and awarded certificates to the current 8th grade students in cohort schools. GEAR UP students received an award certificate, a GEAR UP Banner to display prominently in their schools, and a check in the amount of \$3000 to assist with offsetting costs for student support.

In Ponce, Puerto Rico, GEAR UP program staff displayed street banners on the university

campus and at participating schools. They also coordinated a television presentation with students to urge their classmates and students in general to stay in school and plan their postsecondary studies.

In Reno, current high school and college students (GEAR UP alumni) are being recognized today at a rally.

In Sacramento, they organized a presentation to the Superintendent, student presentations and campus tours.

In San Francisco, they celebrated with an address from principals, student workshops and an ice cream social.

In Santa Ana, California, GEAR UP conducted outreach and students pledged their commitment to college on cards.

In Syracuse, New York, students participated in the 9/11 Day of Service.

In Yakima, Washington they held an open house, college fair and reception.

In Yonkers, New York, administrators issued a "call to action" to the partner schools by requesting teachers and administrators engage students in developing a personal learning plan, help students locate various colleges on a map, teachers and administrators wear their college sweatshirts/t-shirts, talk about college, start a college dream journal with students, take pictures of all activities, and above all make it fun.

In Albany they hosted a GEAR UP Awareness Day in which the GEAR UP students shared their experiences with the program during the announcements. Program information and progress will be placed on tents and set on each table in the cafeteria. Stewarts Ice Cream was provided during lunch periods.

In Jefferson, New York, students and parents visited college campuses.

In Helena, Montana, they celebrated GEAR UP Day during their annual fall conference.

I am proud of all that GEAR UP has done, and will continue to do, to improve life for families and build a stronger, more competitive nation. I encourage my colleagues to join me in this celebration.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF TERRENCE BARNICH

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Terrence (Terry) Barnich and the sacrifice he made for his country. Terrence was serving as the Deputy Director of the Iraq Transition Office in Baghdad when his motorcade was attacked by an improvised explosive device on May 25, 2009. He had dedicated his life to his country, leaving a comfortable life in Chicago and signing on for multiple tours in Iraq where he worked for more than two years.

Terrence was an exemplary and valiant U.S. citizen. Volunteering to serve in Iraq in a time of war attests to his loyalty and dedication to our country. As the Deputy Director of the Iraq Transition Group, he lent his skills to rebuilding and improving Iraq's energy infrastructure in an effort to help build a better future for the people of Iraq. His leadership in Iraq's transition has benefited thousands and will continue to affect generations to come. This is a great

loss not only to the Illinois 5th District, but also to the United States and Iraq.

Terry will be remembered by the American people as a selfless public servant whose memory will live on through his great accomplishments both here and in Iraq. On behalf of my family and the people of the 5th Congressional District of Illinois, I extend my deep condolences to his family. I hope that time and memories will help lessen the burden of their grief.

CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the International Right of Way Association, which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary on Friday, October 16, 2009. IRWA is responsible for educating and cultivating top talent in the industry that has led us to many of today's modern conveniences and landmarks.

The United States is home to many accomplished and dedicated Right of Way professionals—the IRWA has been providing the path to success and adamant professionalism for members since its inception as a not-for-profit association in 1934. IRWA has united the efforts of its members toward professional development, improved service to employers and the public, and continues to make advancements within the Right of Way profession.

Right of Way professionals play a leading role in the development and advancement of our transportation, water, and energy projects, while advancing America for future generations. IRWA has nearly 10,000 professional members comprised of engineers, appraisers, property managers, acquisition agents, lawyers, surveyors, title experts, environmentalists, and relocation assistance agents.

Right of way professionals improve the lives of citizens across our nation through the building of infrastructure projects that transform our community. Infrastructures the country over have benefited from the hard work of IRWA professionals—the highways we drive on, utilities in our homes, and telephone towers that enable us to communicate—have all benefited because a Right of Way professional applied their unique expertise in creating the nation's infrastructure.

TRIBUTE REGARDING THE COMMISSIONING OF THE USS "WAYNE E. MEYER" (DDG 108)

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to celebrate and pay tribute to the commissioning of the USS *Wayne E. Meyer* (DDG 108).

On October 10, 2009, the United States Navy will commission this guided missile destroyer named in honor of a native Missourian,

Rear Admiral Wayne E. Meyer. Long regarded as the "Father of Aegis," Rear Admiral Meyer dedicated his life to serving our country. The USS *Wayne E. Meyer* will be commissioned in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and home ported in San Diego, California.

Madam Speaker, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Commanding Officer, Officers and Crew upon the commissioning of this beautiful ship.

REMEMBERING MARTHA L. LEWIS,
DADE CITY, FL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who thrived amidst adversity and dedicated her life to educating others so that they might not have to endure the same hardships that were bestowed upon her.

A lifelong Florida resident, Martha L. Lewis was born on November 4, 1922 in Lake Butler, Florida. Growing up, she had a strong desire to become a teacher. After graduating from high school, she saved up enough money to attend Bethune-Cookman College. She graduated first in her class earning a bachelor of science degree in elementary education.

While attending Bethune-Cookman, she also met her future husband, Andrew N. Lewis Jr. He was the first African American to earn a high school diploma in Dade City. In their 48 years of marriage, they raised three children; Andrea, Angela and Andrew III. They were separated only by his death on July 24, 1995.

Martha continued her education earning her masters of education degree in 1957. She parlayed her education into a long and fulfilling career as a teacher in Pasco County. She began as a teacher at Moore Academy; the first all black school in Dade City prior to integration, was later appointed principal of Moore Elementary School in 1968 and, in 1970 was promoted to administrative supervisor of the Migrant Education Program for Pasco County.

She retired in 1973 after 27 years of devoted service to the public schools of Florida as a teacher, principal, and supervisor. Like her husband, she too will forever hold a place in Pasco County's history: upon her death, she was the only living black administrator of the Moore-Mickens Complex.

She spent the next 25 years as a pianist and choirmaster for the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Dade City. After retiring in 2003, she pursued a new found love of travel: she visited four of the seven continents.

Martha leaves behind a litany of loved ones to cherish her memory and pass on her legacy to the many generations to come.

IN HONOR OF MIKE FUOSS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of Mike Fuoss, who was shot and

killed on Friday, September 11, 2009. Mike was a small business owner, father, brother, and friend to many in the greater Owosso community.

Mike was born February 7, 1948, in Owosso. He graduated from Corunna High School in 1966. He went on to study Diesel Mechanics and Business at Ferris State University. In 1999, he married his wife, Barbara.

Mike co-owned a number of small businesses throughout Owosso, including Fuoss Gravel Co. and Eddie O'Flynn's.

He was a member of the Owosso Home Builders Association, and the Shiawassee County Chamber of Commerce.

Mike loved restoring old cars and hot rods, enjoyed riding his Harley, and was a fan of NASCAR.

Fuoss was a good American who died tragically. The people whose lives he touched through his contributions to the community will miss him dearly.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROOKS 1ST CONSTRUCTION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Brooks 1st Construction. Brooks Construction is the consummate local family business. It started in 1909 as a partnership between two friends, James Brooks and Lester Ginn, with a \$7,000 dollar investment from a Fort Wayne businessman, and today has grown into a leader in the construction development industry.

The capable hands of Brooks 1st Construction were responsible for much of the Third District's early infrastructure development. What is known today as Old Maumee Road was originally constructed by Brooks in 1911 to connect the cities of New Haven and Fort Wayne and was the first concrete road in the state of Indiana. With the growth of automobiles, Brooks Construction established itself as a leader in highway and road construction and in 1957 was charged with constructing the first section of the Indiana Toll Road.

Today, it is the premier contractor in Northeast Indiana, constructing highways, paving residential and commercial areas, and installing underground utilities across the Midwest. It is the standard for quality—its expansion of I-69 was selected as one of only eight finalists for the 1999 National Quality Initiative Award and five of its plants have received Diamond Awards from the National Association of Pavement and Development Association for excellence in appearance, safety, permitting and compliance, operations, environmental practices, and community relations.

Over the years, innovation has also defined Brooks 1st Construction, and its developments have led to the advances throughout the construction industry. They were one of the first companies to use self propelled concrete mixers. When the limitations of early trucks and drivers led to difficulty transporting materials, James Brooks developed a 'turntable' to automatically turn around trucks and allow for accurate unloading. Early construction projects were often hindered by mobility and the amount of time it would take to move from one

job to the next. To address this issue, Brooks Construction helped design "portable" plants, enabling them to move within 3 to 4 days. Their design soon became the industry standard greatly increasing efficiency.

More recently, Brooks' innovative spirit has led to environmental advances. In collaboration with National Serv-All, it developed a Landfill Gas Energy Recovery Project that utilizes waste gases created at an area landfill to heat one of its asphalt production plants. It also attempts to incorporate recycled materials in its products working to constantly find new ways to reduce costs and create a green product.

Throughout its long and successful history, Brooks 1st Construction has retained strong ties to the community where it got its start. The main facilities are still in Mishawaka, Goshen, Auburn and Fort Wayne Indiana. It is active with a number of local charities including Habitat for Humanity, the Boys and Girls Club, Family and Children Services to name a few. Brooks' contributions to educate young people and help them develop the leadership and entrepreneurial skills needed to succeed resulted in the company being inducted into the Junior Achievement Greater Business Hall of Fame.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Brooks 1st Construction.

ON THE PASSING OF RICHARD SHADYAC

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Richard Shadyac, the former C.E.O. of the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities (ALSAC), the fundraising arm of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Mr. Shadyac passed away last Wednesday at the age of 80. For many years, he split his time between Memphis, Tennessee and the Washington, D.C. area.

He was widowed in 2001 when he lost his first wife, Juliette. He leaves behind their two children, Richard and Thomas, as well as two grandchildren. Richard followed his father's footsteps and recently assumed the position of C.E.O. of ALSAC on September first of this year. Thomas is a celebrated comedian, producer, director and writer in Los Angeles. Mr. Shadyac also leaves behind his wife of seven years, Lynn Caruthers Shadyac of McLean, Virginia.

Here in Washington, Mr. Shadyac was well known for advocating on behalf of the government of Libya. He also had a hand in the founding of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Mr. Shadyac received his Juris Doctor from Boston University in 1952. He served in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps during the Korean War. After he left the Army, Mr. Shadyac went to work at the Justice Department. Later, he became a founding partner of two law firms: McGinnis, Berg, Shadyac and Nolan and Metzger, Shadyac and Schwartz.

Thirty years after becoming a board member for St. Jude, Richard Shadyac became the

C.E.O. of the hospital's fundraising operation in 1992. He held this position for 13 years, leading an effort that raised millions upon millions of dollars for the purpose of researching and treating childhood cancer and other diseases.

In 1985, St. Jude seriously considered leaving Memphis, Tennessee to relocate to Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. It was through Richard Shadyac's efforts that the hospital remains in Memphis today. I first met him when I was a Tennessee State Senator. He was on one of his many trips to Nashville, where he would adroitly encourage state officials to work to keep St. Jude in Tennessee. He advocated for his cause throughout the halls of the Tennessee State Capitol, and it was through these efforts that we became friends. I cherished his friendship in Memphis for many years, as well as in Washington D.C. when I joined the United States Congress.

After the death of his good friend and St. Jude's founder, Danny Thomas, Mr. Shadyac took the reins to ensure that the hospital would remain stable and secure. Without Mr. Thomas to publicly promote the hospital, it was Richard who decided that the children should be the new face of St. Jude. Under his leadership, St. Jude's donations increased four-fold.

Mr. Shadyac displayed a great interest in the individual well-being of St. Jude's patients. He would often visit the children and their families at the hospital. It was Mr. Shadyac who gave them a voice in the fight against cancer.

Upon his retirement, St. Jude's fundraising operation, the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities, was ranked among the three largest health care charities in the country.

My heart goes out to Mr. Shadyac's family, as well as the St. Jude community. Richard Shadyac dedicated his life to finding a cure for childhood cancer. He leaves behind a strong legacy of good will and deeds, and will forever be remembered by the Memphis and St. Jude communities.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, yesterday was World Alzheimer's Day—a day to call attention to and raise awareness of this fatal, neurodegenerative disease afflicting over 5 million Americans.

In this country, someone develops Alzheimer's every 70 seconds, and total healthcare costs are more than three times higher for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias than for people the same age without the disease. Experts estimate that it could affect as many as 10 million baby boomers as they age. The bottom line is this: Alzheimer's disease poses a significant public health threat to our Nation.

In my State of California, there will be as many as 480,000 people age 65 and older who will have Alzheimer's disease by 2010. And Alzheimer's doesn't just strike the individual—it is a family disease. According to the Alzheimer's Association's 2009 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, there are nearly

10 million Alzheimer's caregivers providing unpaid care valued at \$94 billion. In California alone, there are over 1 million caregivers grappling with the tremendous challenges of Alzheimer's disease every day.

In order to assist caregivers with these daunting challenges, I plan to reintroduce the Alzheimer's Treatment and Caregiver Support Act this month (H.R. 1032 in the 110th Congress). This bill provides grants to public and nonprofit organizations to improve treatment services for Alzheimer's patients and expand training and support services for families and caregivers. Expanding access to training and support services would improve the ability of caregivers to provide effective, compassionate care and allow more people with Alzheimer's disease to remain in their homes with people who love them. This bill had over 100 cosponsors in the 110th Congress, and I hope the 111th Congress will pass this important bill and send it to the President's desk.

We can also fight this disease with the Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act, H.R. 3286, of which I am proud to be a cosponsor. This legislation seeks to find breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease by increasing research funding to \$2 billion per year. It also calls for a national summit on Alzheimer's disease to look at promising research possibilities and programs that are important in fighting this disease.

As we recognize World Alzheimer's Day 2009, I urge my colleagues to join with me and cosponsor the Alzheimer's Treatment and Caregiver Support Act and the Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act. Let us commit to take every possible action to improve treatments for Alzheimer's patients, support caregivers, and invest in research to find a cure for this disease.

RECOGNIZING OHIO'S EMANCIPATION DAY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ohio's Emancipation Day. On this day in 1862, following the battle of Antietam, President Abraham Lincoln issued a preliminary executive order, essentially setting a date for the emancipation of all slaves in rebellious states. Lincoln would go on to sign the final Emancipation Proclamation in January of 1863, thereby abolishing slavery altogether.

My home state of Ohio has long acknowledged September 22nd as Emancipation Day, and therefore I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on this milestone in our nation's history.

In addition, I would like to recognize Mr. Paul LaRue, a well-respected educator at Washington Court House High School and the efforts he and his students have made to educate the public about the importance of honoring this day. I will conclude with a quote from Ohio Congressman, James Ashley, who held office at the time the Emancipation Proclamation was issued: "If slavery is wrong and criminal, as the great body of enlightened and Christian men admit, it is certainly our duty to abolish it."

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. As the first member of my family to graduate from college, I know that the opportunity to go to college was the key to any success that I have had in life. I understand firsthand that pursuing education after high school can be a challenging financial decision. Working families struggle to enable their children to go to college, and individuals who wish to pursue a second degree must weigh the costs carefully. This bill takes significant steps to make college more affordable and to ease the burden of debt for those who take out loans to pay for higher education.

H.R. 3221 continues our work to increase Pell Grants to keep up with increasing educational costs, raising the maximum grant to \$6,900 over the next ten years. It invests \$3 billion in efforts that improve access to college and support students throughout their education, like the successful initiatives of the College Foundation of North Carolina and the North Carolina Educational Assistance Authority in my state. The legislation also strengthens Perkins Loans by making more students eligible and keeping interest rates low.

H.R. 3221 makes critical investments in our historically black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions, and strengthens community colleges and training programs to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed in school and gain the skills they need for success in our 21st century technological economy. It also invests in quality early education opportunities that plant the seeds of success for the next generation of college graduates. Finally, it makes all of these investments in a fiscally-responsible manner, even devoting \$10 billion in savings to pay down the deficit.

I am pleased that Chairman MILLER worked with me to ensure that non-profits and state agencies, like the North Carolina College Foundation and the North Carolina Educational Assistance Authority, continue to have a role in providing services to college-bound students. Millions of North Carolina families turn to these institutions for help with college counseling, loan support, and default prevention. It would be a tragedy to lose the local knowledge and expertise they provide. Student loan reform must preserve a role for these valuable loan guarantors and affiliated non-profits, and I am pleased that an amendment I offered which explicitly authorizes support for their services was included in the final bill.

As the former superintendent of North Carolina's schools, I know firsthand the needs of our school districts for modernization and renovation funding. I am pleased H.R. 3221 contains \$2 billion in each of the next two years

to help schools maintain high-quality facilities that help students learn. I appreciate Chairman MILLER's commitment to work with me to ensure that we use some of this funding in support of our federal responsibility for federally-connected children. In my district, the schools in Harnett County and Cumberland County, as well as those in the rest of the state, are proud to be able to educate the sons and daughters of those who serve and protect our nation. However, the growth at Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, threatens to overwhelm the school districts' already strained budgets as they work to make room for these students. We have a responsibility to help these schools, and I look forward to working with the chairman to support our military families.

Madam Chair, H.R. 3221 represents a significant investment in the future of our nation, and a historic commitment to our students and working families. I urge my colleagues in joining me in support of this legislation.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF 9/11

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam Speaker, as we reflect upon the eighth anniversary of the September 11 attacks, the Americans who perished that day, the Americans who heard the call to arms and sacrificed themselves to defend our lives and liberty, the sacrifice of Americans who remain in the line of fire and their families, let us reaffirm our commitment to Never Forget.

Scott Rogers, a constituent from Baton Rouge, penned the following poem in 2001. It is a tribute to the searing legacy of that fateful day and the values that guarantee we will overcome it.

THE DAY LIBERTY CRIED

(By Scott Rogers)

It was just another Tuesday morn
As people went their way
The cars, the trains were bustling by
Another working day

Although diverse with many faces
These people shared one hue
They lived together with Liberty

Under the colors Red, White, and Blue
Liberty was the one thing they all shared
They nurtured Her in their heart
But little that morn did they realize,
That their world would be torn apart
Liberty was strong She stood proud
But on this fateful morn She cried
In horror She watched as evil attacked
And so many innocent people died
Liberty bowed Her head that day
For She felt somehow that She
Had allowed these acts to come to Her shores
To the great land of the free
But the evil that attacked Her
Could not begin to understand
That Liberty could not be destroyed
Nor our great love for this land
Those who tried to hurt Her
Could not break Her soul
And proudly we fought to rebuild what was
lost
Although heavy was our toll
Each brick that fell was carefully removed
Each victim we will always remember
And Liberty is there to remind us all
Each eleventh of September
We will never forget, we must not forget
Yes . . . Liberty did cry that day
But we will never stop pledging "In God We
Trust"
Because? . . . We love this U.S.A.